

We Claim:

- 5 1. In a remote control device having a network interface with a network,
said network having additional devices interfaced with the network,
a method, comprising the steps of:
providing a protocol to enable said remote control device to dynamically
locate, and identify a network attached device, and
with the protocol, retrieving dynamically the command codes of said network
10 attached device, and
with the protocol, controlling the operations of said network attached device
by means of said dynamically retrieved command codes.
- 15 2. The method of claim 1 wherein said method further comprises the steps of:
with the protocol, sending communications over an Internet Protocol (IP)
based network.
- 20 3. The method of claim 1 wherein said method further comprises the steps of:
with the protocol, dynamically locating and identifying multiple network
attached devices with the remote control device
- 25 4. The method of claim 1 wherein said method further comprises the steps of:
with the protocol, controlling the operations of multiple network attached
devices with the remote control device
5. The method of claim 1 wherein said method further comprises the steps of:
with the protocol, said remote control requesting and receiving a list of
command codes from a network attached device.
- 30 6. The method of claim 5 wherein said method further comprises the steps of:
with the protocol, sending received command codes to said network attached
device from the remote control device.

7. The method of claim 1 wherein said method further comprises the steps of:
with the protocol, displaying on the display surface of said remote control a
list of the network attached devices available to a user.

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8. The method of claim 1 wherein said method further comprises the steps of:
with the protocol, selecting a device to control from among those listed on the
display surface of the remote control device by a user of the remote control device.

10 9. The method of claim 1 wherein said method further comprises the steps of:
with the protocol, said network attached device receiving a request for its
command codes from said remote control device, and
with the protocol, said network attached device providing said command
codes to the remote control device.

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10. The method of claim 1 wherein said method further comprises the steps of:
with the protocol, said network attached device providing its command codes
and an associated text string for each code to the remote control device in response to
a request from the remote control device.

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11. The method of claim 1 wherein said method further comprises the steps of:
with the protocol, said network attached device providing its command codes
and an associated graphical image for each command code to the remote control
device in response to a request from the remote control device.

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12. The method of claim 1 wherein said method further comprises the steps of:
with the protocol, said network attached device providing its command codes
and an associated graphical image and text string for each command code, to the
remote control device, in response to a request from the remote control device.

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13. The method of claim 1 wherein said method further comprises the steps of:
with the protocol, said network attached device receiving and executing one of
its command codes from said remote control device.

5 providing a protocol to enable a network attached device to be dynamically located, and identified by the electronic remote control device, and with the protocol, said remote control device controlling the operations of said network attached device by means of command codes dynamically retrieved from the network attached device.

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19. The medium of claim 17 wherein

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